

Appl. No. 10/815,164  
Response Dated May 1, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of January 31, 2006

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Original): A novel polyimide copolymer, which is a copolymer comprising two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides consisting of (A) isopropylidenebis (4-phenyleneoxy-4-phthalic acid) dianhydride and (B) 3,3', 4,4' -biphenyltetracarboxylic acid dianhydride, and (C) 6-amino-2-(p-aminophenyl)- benzimidazole.

Claim 2 (Original): A novel polyimide copolymer according to claim 1, wherein the copolymer has a film formability.

Claim 3 (Original): A novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 1, wherein the two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides are used in a proportion of component (A) to component (B) of 10 – 80 mol.% to 90 – 20 mol.%.

Claim 4 (Original): A film formed from a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 3.

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**Claim 5 (Original):** A metal laminate manufactured by laminating a layer of a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 3 to a metallic foil.

**Claim 6 (Original):** A metal laminate according to Claim 5 for use as a flexible printed circuit board.

**Claim 7 (Original):** A novel polyimide copolymer, which is a copolymer comprising two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides consisting of (A) isopropylidenebis (4-phenyleneoxy-4-phthalic acid) dianhydride and (B) 3,3', 4, 4' -biphenyltetracarboxylic acid dianhydride, and two or three kinds of diamines consisting of (C) 6-amino-2-(p-aminophenyl) benzimidazole and (D) at least one kind of diamines consisting of bis(4-aminophenyl) ether (D<sub>1</sub>) and phenylenediamine (D<sub>2</sub>).

**Claim 8 (Original):** A novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 7, wherein the copolymer has a film formability.

**Claim 9 (Original):** A novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 7, wherein the two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides are used in a proportion of component (A) to component (B) of 10 – 80 mol% to 90 – 20 mol% and the diamines are used in a proportion of component (C) to component (D<sub>1</sub>) of not less than 60 mol.% to not more than 40 mol.%.

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**Claim 10 (Original):** A novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 7, wherein the two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides are used in a proportion of component (A) to component (B) of 10 – 80 mol% to 90 – 20 mol.%, and the diamines are used in a proportion of component (C) to component (D<sub>2</sub>) of not less than 20 mol.% to not more than 80 mol.%.

**Claim 11 (Original):** A film manufactured from a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 9.

**Claim 12 (Original):** A film manufactured from a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 10.

**Claim 13 (Original):** A metal laminate manufactured by laminating a layer of a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 9 to a metallic foil.

**Claim 14 (Original):** A metal laminate manufactured by laminating a layer of a novel polyimide copolymer according to Claim 10 to a metallic foil.

**Claim 15 (Original):** A metal laminate according to Claim 13 for use as a flexible printed circuit board.

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**Claim 16 (Original):** A metal laminate according to Claim 14 for use as a flexible printed circuit board.

**Claim 17 (Currently amended):** A process for manufacturing a metal laminate laminated with a polyimide copolymer layer, characterized by subjecting two kinds of tetracarboxylic acid dianhydrides consisting of (A) isopropylidenebis (~~4-phenyleneoxy-4-phthalic acid~~) (4-phenyleneoxy-4-phthalic acid) dianhydride and (B) 3,3', 4,4' -biphenyltetracarboxylic acid dianhydride to reaction with one kind of diamine consisting of (C) 6-amino-2-(p-aminophenyl) benzimidazole or two or three kinds of diamines consisting of component (C) and (D) at least one kind of diamines consisting of bis(4-aminophenyl) ether (D<sub>1</sub>) and phenylenediamine (D<sub>2</sub>) in a polar solvent, applying the resulting solution of polyamic acid in the polar solvent to a metallic foil, and then drying the solvent off, followed by heating to a polyimidization reaction temperature.